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CD NO.

50X1-HUM

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Ching-chi Chou-pao (Economic Weekly) Vol XI, No 22, 1950.

PRESENT CONDITION OF HUAI-PEI SALT PANS

Location of Salt Pans

As for the former Ch'ing-k'ou pans, the 12 former Ta-hsin pans of Kan-man and Kan-pei are now allocated to the T'ai-pei pans, while the former Ch'ing-san-chung area, which was composed of T'ang-sheng, Hsing-chuang, and Che-wang, has been completely assigned to the Shantung Control Bureau. The present detailed allocation within each group is also different from the preliberation plan.

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50X1-HUM**CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIALQuantity of Production

1. Prior to the Japanese invasion in 1937, the average annual production over 10 years was 7,432,000 piculs, with a peak of 13,580,000 piculs in 1935.

2. During the Japanese occupation, the average annual production was 3,766,000 piculs; 1939 production had the lowest record, 938,000 piculs, while 1943 had the highest production figure, 5,624,000 piculs.

3. The liberation of all the salt pans was completed as late as November 1948, when the producing season already had passed. Until that time, the T'ai-nan and T'ai-pei pans were still in the hands of the Nationalists, and the Fang-yang, Kuan-hsi, and Kuan-tung pans were affected by the war so frequently that normal production was impossible. It was therefore difficult to work out accurate production data. According to estimates, however, the 1948 production of all the pans did not exceed that of 1949 or 1950. In 1949, production amounted to 5,586,689 piculs; in 1950, it was 6,134,580 piculs. The average for these 2 years was 5,860,335 piculs, which was 80 percent of the average production of the 10 years prior to the Japanese invasion in 1937, or more than 55 percent over the average production of the period from 1937 to the liberation.

Moreover, in 1950, the spring rainfall was extremely heavy. Yang says that "up to 5 June, the salt production has reached 2,300,000 piculs, a figure which is quite satisfactory." This figure is not correct.

Quality of Salt

Our policy for 1950 is to "increase the quantity, improve the quality, and lower the cost of production." From the results of repeated experiments, we find that the quality of salt produced in 1950 is much better. As the record of the spring yield will show, about 94.8 percent of the production can be classified as Grade-A salt, leaving only 5.2 percent classified as Grade-B. Grade-A salt contains about 90 percent sodium chloride, while Grade-B salt contains more than 85 percent. But we still do not feel satisfied; we keep on learning, doing experimental work, and trying to improve production techniques. Yang's description of the quality of the salt has doubtlessly left the public with a bad impression about our management.

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